

Welcome to the August edition of my e-Focus in which I update local residents on news items, council meetings and planning applications in the Alamein ward. As before if you no longer wish to receive these e-Focus newsletters please contact me on len.gates@andover.co.uk and I will remove your email address from the circulation list.

Earlier last month I attended the schools graduation ceremonies at the lights. As usual the children of Knights Enham and Roman Way were a credit to their schools and parents. Congratulations to all involved and good luck in your new secondary schools.

As expected the council's scrutiny committee has approved the report on bus services in Andover, calling for more work to be done to improve current services and to look at the possibility of introducing Sunday services. I am pleased to have been a member of panel which investigated and reported on these issues.

Meanwhile plans (of the old Labour government) to transfer responsibility for concessionary fares to the county council are now being implemented and a public consultation is under way. I and other Andover councillors will be working to ensure that local residents, with one of the best concessionary fare schemes in Hampshire, do not lose out in the transfer. Also on buses - the local health authority has announced plans to scrap the Winchester hospital bus. I am currently working with officers to ensure an adequate alternative service is available to all those needing it. If you have any comments or concerns about either of these issues please let me know.

On 20th and 21st July I joined Smannell parish councillors at the public enquiry into the closure and rerouting of Smannell Road. My congratulations to them on an excellent and well presented argument for keeping the road open which I fully supported. The inspectors decision is expected in a couple of months.

Following my requests I can report that Hampshire Highways have prioritised repairs to potholes on Galahad Close and work started last week. I am now seeking updates on a number of other areas where urgent roads repairs are needed.

Finally, the Turnaround summer program is now well underway with a range of activities planned in and around King Arthur's Hall and Askalot. Last Thursday I attended an excellent music and theatre show "Letters" at the hall. For full details of what's on call in at the shop or phone Fusion on 07977 826700, Vikki on 07521 666716, or Petra on 01264 358443.

Cllr Len Gates, Alamein ward, Test Valley Borough Council

For all the latest news visit

<http://lengates.mycouncillor.org.uk/>

<http://www.nwhampshire.libdems.org.uk/>



PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning applications have been submitted in the past month. If you wish to see more details or comment on them go to <http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/Default.aspx?page=5600>

10/01493/FULLN	30/06/2010	Ashley Copse Smannell SP11 6JW	Demolition of former rehabilitation centre and erection of detached dwelling
10/01620/FULLN	13/07/2010	17 Ridges View Little London SP11 6JF	Conservatory to rear of property
10/01628/FULLN	13/07/2010	107 Swallowfields Andover SP10 5PL	Erection of single storey rear extension
10/01726/VARN	22/07/2010	1A Newbury Road Enham Alamein SP11 6HG	Variation of condition 2 - samples and details
10/01797/TPON	30/07/2010	Andover Education Centre Smannell Road Andover SP11 6JP	To crown lift (to 3-4m) trees along eastern boundary

THIS MONTH'S BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Test Valley council meetings this month are as follows. Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings of the council. To view the agenda of the meeting, go to <http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/Default.aspx?page=201>

05.08.10	Northern Area Planning Committee	Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover	17:30
09.08.10	Licensing sub-committee	Upper Guildhall, High Street, Andover.	09:30
10.08.10	Planning Control Committee	Council Chamber, Dutton's Road, Romsey	17:30
26.08.10	Northern Area Planning Committee	Conference Room 1, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover	17:30
31.08.10	Planning Control Committee	Council Chamber, Dutton's Road, Romsey	17:30
01.09.10	Cabinet	Council Chamber, Dutton's Road, Romsey	17:30

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL, OTHER MEETINGS and EVENTS:

Smannell Parish Council	Mon 9 Aug 19:15	Smannell & Enham School, Smannell
Enham Alamein Parish Council	Wed 11 Aug 19:15	Enham Shop, Enham Alamein
Andover Town Council	Thu 12 Aug 19:00	Upper Guildhall, High Street, Andover

If you wish to comment on, or need any further information about, any of the issues mentioned in this newsletter or any other local issue, please contact me on - len.gates@andover.co.uk or 01264 356759 or 07793 607190 or write to Alamein Lib Dems, FREEPOST BZ461, Andover SP10 4NJ